

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the description at paragraph [0033] to correct obvious typographical errors.

Claims 1, 8 and 13 have been amended. Support for the amendment of Claims 1, 8 and 13 appears in the specification at least at paragraphs [0108]-[0111].

Response to Election Requirement.

Initially, Applicants note that the Examiner is in error in asserting:

Applicant's election without traverse of Group I claims 1-13 in Paper No. 5 is acknowledged. (Office Action, page 2.)

Pursuant to the Examiner's request for Applicants to clarify the record herein, the Examiner confirmed that there is no Paper No. 5 and no previous election requirement in a telephone conversation on September 16, 2004 between the Examiner and the Attorney for Applicants, Serge J. Hodgson. The Examiner indicated that the election requirement applies to Claims 1-20.

As for the substance of the election requirement, the Examiner is requiring election to one of the following species under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Embodiment 1 described in Fig. 1A to Fig. 1B;
- II. Embodiment 2 described in Fig. 2A to Fig. 2C;
- III. Embodiment 3 described in Fig. 3A to Fig. 3C;
- IV. Embodiment 4 described in Fig. 6.

Applicants hereby elect group IV, Embodiment 4 described in Fig. 6. Applicants assert that Claims 1-6, 8-18 and 20 read upon the elected species. Applicants hereby assert that Claims

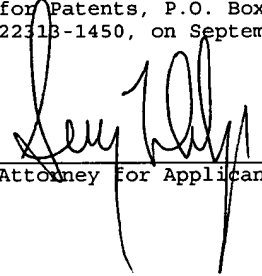
1 and 13 are generic to dependent Claims 7 and 19,
respectively.

Conclusion

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant(s).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

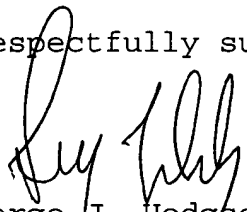
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 28, 2004.



Attorney for Applicant(s)

September 28, 2004
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


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